

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

ACTION AF-00

INFO LOG-00 AID-00 AMAD-00 CIAE-00 INL-00 DODE-00 DS-00
UTED-00 H-00 TEDE-00 INR-00 M-00 NEA-00 NSAE-00
OPR-00 PER-00 GIWI-00 SSO-00 SS-00 SCRS-00 DSCC-00
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FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2705
INFO DARFUR COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS NDJAMENA 001748

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CHAD: AU TO ESTABLISH OFFICE

1. Ambassador Mahmoud Kane, the new head of the AU Liaison Office in N'djamena, paid a call on the Ambassador December 7, 2005 to introduce himself and explain his mission in Chad. His mandate will be to coordinate between the AU and the Government of Chad (GOC) and with "all partners." He was in N'djamena to meet with GOC and to set up arrangements for his new office. He is traveling to Sudan next week "to be briefed on Darfur" and will return in a week or so to Chad to officially open up the office.

2. Ambassador Kane informed the Ambassador that he will have a small staff -- himself, a military liaison and some local staff. He will be coordinating closely with AMIS and will oversee the AU office in Abeche. He will also be monitoring the situation of the refugees on Chadian territory and following the negotiations. He reported that the hope is that having direct contacts will make a difference in the peace process. Following a meeting the previous day with the Chadian Minister for Territorial Administration, he did not feel that there was that difference between the Chadian and the AU position. The Ambassador warmly welcomed the establishment of the office and looked forward to working with Ambassador Kane.

3. Bio note: Ambassador Kane is a Mauritanian who worked for some 17 years for the OAU before moving to the UN to work at MONUC in DROC(1999-2005). Now he is back at the AU.

4. Comment: The opening of an AU office to handle the press of Darfur business and other issues here is long overdue. End comment.

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